



# INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

- State of Georgia -

## *NEWS RELEASE*

**John F. King**

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For Immediate Release  
July 12, 2019

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## HABERSHAM COUNTY MAN CHARGED WITH ARSON

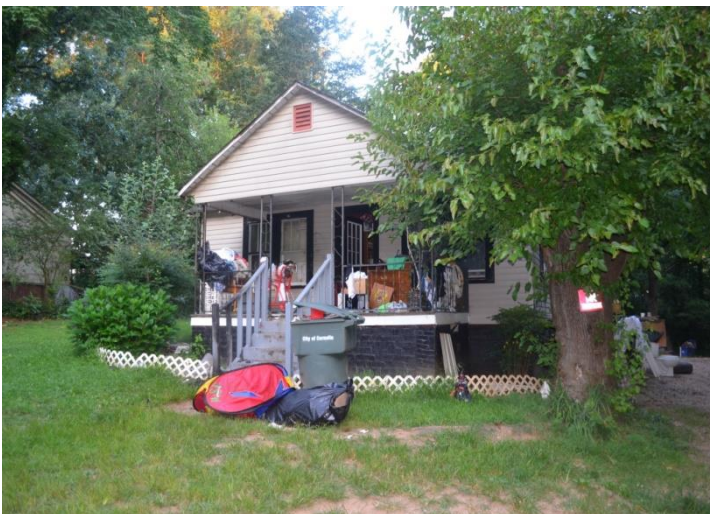
**Atlanta** – John Barnette Edmonds, 30, of Cornelia, GA has been charged with 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Arson for allegedly [setting fire to a home located at 167 Slayton Street in Cornelia, GA on July 2<sup>nd</sup>](#).

The single-story, wood-frame home was around 80 years old and 1,000 square feet at the time of the fire. The structure suffered very mild damage to the front steps of the home.

Edmonds was already incarcerated on unrelated charges at the time the arson charge was filed. He is currently being held at Habersham County Detention Center awaiting a bond hearing.

Investigators with the Safety Fire Commissioner's Office were assisted by the City of Cornelia Fire Department and City of Cornelia Police Department with this investigation.

1<sup>st</sup> Degree Arson is a felony punishable by a fine of up to \$50,000 or by a prison term between one and twenty years, or both. To report arson, call the Arson Hotline at 1-800-282-5804. Rewards are offered of up to \$10,000 for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of an arsonist. Calls are taken 24 hours a day and callers can choose to remain anonymous.



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